

**February 27, 2023**

**To Whom It May Concern:**

**As a school counselor for the past 16 years, I believe that a school resource officer's role is completely different than those educators (school counselors, social workers, school psychologists) with a degree focused on the mental health of all students. Mental health support is a necessity and the role cannot be combined with that of discipline as this could hurt the trusting relationship built with the students.**

**School resource officers play a separate, yet important role within the schools. Our school resource officer is available to assist students and many students have come to respect the officer in their school. They are there to protect and students feel safer having them in the building for support.**

**Sincerely,**

**Anonymous School Counselor**